to the release of grant for sustenance, as an institution of spiritualism and culture. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would consider this Vaishnava Monastery equal footing in respect of grants from his Ministry.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: Sir, there are various cultural assets and each one is being helped. We are not saying one should be helped more and the other should be helped less. We are doing it on the merit and I assure the hon. Member that we have already given Rs. 4 crores. Let that money be spent and we will give more. We will ensure that there is no shortage of funds for this island. We will also ensure that all aspects of its culture, monasteries, as well as Hindu temples are protected, preserved and their heritage is kept intact. (*Interruption*)

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Mr, Chairman, Sir development of Majouli Island as a national heritage site is of great national interest. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would consider the establishment of a high -powered advisory group of experts to plan the development of Majouli Island in an integrated manner to preserve the great cultural heritage.

SHRI JAGMOHAN: We have already constituted this group and this group is preparing a report for submission to the UNESCO.

Retail outlets of ONGC

*207. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has been granted permission to set up about 500 retail outlets in the country;

(b) if so, the break up of the outlets proposed to be set up in various States of the country, State-wise; and

(c) by when, these are going to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has been granted permission to set up 1,100 Retail Outlets in the country.

(b) The break up of the outlets proposed to be set up by ONGC in various States of the country is as under:—

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Retail Outlets
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100
2.	Assam	10
3.	Goa	20
4.	Gujarat	100
5.	Himachal Pradesh	10
6.	Karnataka	30
7.	Kerala	90
8.	Maharashtra	346
9.	Pondicherry	10
10.	Rajasthan	12
11.	Tamil Nadu	10
12.	Uttaranchal	12
	TOTAL	1,100

(c) ONGC has planned to develop the Retail Outlets in phases over a period of 3-4 years.

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Sir, the proposal for setting up a hundred retail outlets in Andhra Pradesh was approved two years ago. But, till now, not many retail outlets have become operational, by ONGC, in Andhra Pradesh. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would give any specific time-frame within which the ONGC would fulfil its target of setting up a hundred retail outlets in Andhra Pradesh.

Part (b) of my supplementary is according to the stipulation, a minimum of at least 11% of the total retail outlets have to be set up in remote and low service areas. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the ONGC and other private oil companies are following that stipulation. If yes, the total retail outlets that have so far been set up by the ONGC and private oil companies in remote and low service areas.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, so far as ONGC's establishing a hundred retail outlets in Andhra Pradesh is concerned, normally the gestation period for a retail is 2-3 years. On that basis only, two year back, the sanction was given. Every oil company, to whom it is given, is doing its work. And according to the ONGC, this year, it will spend Rs.15 crores and in the next year, Rs. 75 crores towards this. As and when the land is made available, they would be establishing them.

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Sir, in addition to the present strength of 20,000 retail outlets, the Government has now granted...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question, hon. Member The hon. Members should come direct to questions. You have put three questions in one supplementary.

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: The Government has now granted new authorised players for setting up 11,159 retail outlets. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what mechanism the Government would ensure for the new players, who are coming into the field of oil distribution, in order to strictly adhere to the norms of quality and service to be provided to the consumers.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Sir, a Petroleum Regulatory Board is proposed and hopefully a Bill would come for discussion and also passing in this Session. But till that is done, the Ministry is looking after all these things. Guidelines have been given and we are ensuring that these guidelines are followed. So far as the question of establishing retail outlets in remote areas is concerned, 11 per cent of the retail outlets are to be established in remote and long-distance areas. We will ensure that it is done.

श्री लाजपत राय: सर, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो 500 आउटलेट ओ॰एन॰जी॰सी॰ परमिट कर रही है उसमें से किस-किस कंपनी को कितने-कितने दिए हैं और उसमें कोको पम्प कितने होंगे?

श्री राम नाईक: मान्यवर, सदस्य की जानकारी थोड़ी कम है। एक तो ओ॰एन॰जी॰सी॰ को 1100 रिटेल आउटलेट लगाने के लिए दिए हैं। अब तक उन्होंने एक भी रिटेल आउटलेट एस्टिब्लेश नहीं किया है। वे धीरे-धीरे करेंगे और मैंने कहा कि रिटेल आउटलेट एस्टिब्लेश करने के लिए दो से तीन साल लगते हैं। उसके बाद ही वे एस्टिब्लेश हो पाएंगे।

SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Thank you, Sir. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, apart from the ONGC what are the other companies, including the private ones, which have been permitted by the Government or are under consideration of the Government for allowing them to take the retail business.

SHRI RAM NAIK: There are in all six companies that have applied out of which for four companies, we have given; that is, Reliance Petroleum, we have given 5008 retail outlets, for ESSAR Oil we have given 1700, for ONGC we have given 1100 and for Numaligarh Refinery we have given 510 outlets. So, two companies are in the private sector and the other two are in the public sector. In addition, a foreign company, SHELL, has also applied for 2000 outlets. But we have agreed to it only in principle because they have yet to give a certificate that they have invested in infrastructural activities to the extent of Rs.2,000 crores. As soon as they do it, we will give permission to them also.

पेट्रोल में मिलावट

208. **श्रीमती सविता शारदा: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि भरसक प्रयासों के बावजूद पेट्रोल में मिलावट को नहीं रोका जा सका है और उपभोक्ताओं से मिलावटी पेट्रोल के कारण कार के इंजनों में आई खराबियों के बारे में बड़ी संख्या में शिकायतें प्राप्त हो रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने पेट्रोल में मिलावट करने वालों के विरुद्ध सख्त कार्रवाई करने की कोई योजना बनाई है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है,?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) से (ग) सदन के पटल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) सरकार ग्राहकों को स्वच्छ और मिलावट रहित ईंधन की आपूर्ति के लिए वचनबद्ध है।